2/ Still I by no means mean to give you the impression that my sister does not at times, even during their stay in life have seasons of enjoyment. At times certainly they looked on the bright side. I only wished to explain what I think E. meant by her explanation. It was a proof of real friendship & kindness in you only to endeavour to soothe any unkind feeling on Mr Grant's part, not merely because it might prevent harmonious cooperation between Mr G. Mrs Chapman (except, but as a proof of regard for their whole I am sure they as well as I must appreciate as you do. In some of her letters since her return to Ireland, has she then mentioned Miss Grant as being in Paris? I trust they will enquire so good an opportunity of showing their sense of Mr G's kindness. I obtained a very good idea of Mr G's position from your letter. He has certainly done wonders as respects the cause as respects the British & Foreign, it were not well to urge him forward too much. He certainly has dealt the most direct blows thus far, and may be so still more hereafter. By the nature of things that he cannot do precisely as he would. — There is such a combining

of parliament between poor dear Mrs Masters & her husband that I should myself think their conjugal peace would be as a river. I am entirely willing to believe that Mr Matthews may be a very honest sort of a man & may do good to the cause. I never saw him but once & that was at the Thompson Soiree & then his speech, as far as I remember any thing about it, savored very little of grace or oratory. To tell you the truth at the time I read of Mr Thompson's onset upon him, I thought he was hard with the powder, & concluded that Mr T. had taken him as a very weak exponent of New Organization, but the best that presented itself. I had the idea that he would be of little consequence any where or to any party. But I may have wholly misjudged him. He may be a very good sort of a man in his way & able to be useful among the orthodox congregations in Bristol, & if so, Miss Estlin cannot do better than cooperate with him. He may not hold the Americans to the United States Constitution & yet be a good sort of a man with whom as respects the Church question we could

very fully cooperate. I own that a man does not seem to me a wise or clear headed who considers an International compact any thing but a possible one, but some pretty good people (a few) have done so, & it is certainly not a very consequential thing, or at least not so consequential a thing, what view of it is entertained in Great Britain, unless confusion in this point should lead to a want of sympathy with the Am. Society. I don't think Mr Mallets opinion of this point could lead to mischief.

You may be surprised that I am no more uneasy about my sister's remaining in Paris, but I really cannot force on myself as much ground for apprehension. I am very thankful that Henry is out of the country, for he, very chivalrous, might accidentally be shot in some street melée, but if they are ordinarily prudent, I cannot well imagine any personal danger. I had more anxiety in any one day summer before last while the cholera was raging in Paris than in all the time that has passed since the 2nd of December. The pestilence then

Walketh as darkness" alarms me much more than any proclamation that people not considering in the houses will be shot. But you do not think, dear Mr Estlin, these I am hardened & unfeeling in respect to others who are in danger. I am full of profound grief & sorrow & view of the innocent people sacrificed to the folly & ambition of this pretender Louis Napoleon, & how & know, after his downfall, what to wish for, so melancholy is the aspect of French affairs. I do not feel as if I should like France myself for more than a temporary residence but this is evidently not the feeling of my sister (unless indeed Marie herself be an exception) nor of my nieces. I think you may have some prejudices à l'Anglais & perhaps I have some Puritan notions for putting aside dizzy who writes that she cannot express herself with the enthusiasm of Caroline Emma now being a French salon. It is time I have never seen one so I had better suspend my judgment I must write a few lines on a interesting subject to Mary I so with many thanks for your kindness in writing as much as you have

DON

Weymouth Feb 15. 1852

Dear Mr Estlin, I have been
thinking of writing for the Liberty
Bell Box in order to write you,
but that has been so delayed, first
by the printing of the Annual Report
of the Mass A. S. Society, & then by
the determination to print Mr
Phillips's Boston speech in connexion
therewith, that I shall delay no long-
-er. I am very anxious to thank
you for your interesting letter of Dec
26th 1851 containing your account of Mrs
Grant & sundry matters with here-
-in connected. Caroline could not be more
vexed than I was at the unfortu-
-nate affair of the Open Box. & yet
I cannot but help laughing even while
I was, with great annoyance, reading
your letter the cause of this pro-
-ceeding. I had foreseen the subject of
quarrel so very different. I suppose
that Mr Chapman had made Mrs
Grant angry by harsh language in
respect to the Church question & pro-
-slavery ministers. Having imagined
a Communion Table the subject of strife

The genius of Mrs Grant's letter
meeting was a delightful
Soiree

I will not say any thing about the Liberty Bell

you may feign to yourself the
Incidents & not altogether unanimous
tenor of my letters when I speak
of an Open Box.x Have my real
regret was more the less genuine, nor
was it less sincere by the circumstance
that I think I can say with truth
that my letters are not in general
ungrateful for, or unthoughtful of
acts of kindness & merit less value
& significance. I can only account for
it now by the circumstances in which
they were placed, & which I can per-
haps explain better for Emma than
she can for herself. It is true that
they were in the utmost distress &
anxiety about my brother at the time
they were going to the Opera & into
Society generally in London. Even after
they came to England, their anxiety
great even after he left them had
been increasing, & our letters were
in a good degree calculated to create
with a state of feeling. Our very

x Caroline mentioned in one of her letters
Mr G's kindness in lending them the Box
& I recollect being surprised that such a
pious man should patronize the Opera.
Among our Methodist people a member of
the Church would be in danger of
excommunication for going to such places.
Well we have some religion if we do hold Slaves.

style of writing was necessarily perplexing & distressing. We wished to be direct for & Seniers & yet were entirely unsettled in judgment & opinion how the case stood with him. He was consulting various physicians of various schools, was some times much better & then again worse. Of course our letters varied, at times I thought "we are all over rating his danger, the complaint is a nervous one, he will soon be better, it is a great pity that their enjoyment in England should be broken up by apprehensions, there may after all prove an formless, a great pity that Emma & Lizzy should not enjoy as much of those Spring sparkle & effervescence as the top of the cup which I incline to think can never be tasted except in very early life" — & so I wrote under this state of feeling, & tried to assuage the fears that a former letter might have created and said "I think you may feel quite easy; I may have over stated the case; don't worry about him, go on & enjoy all you can" This state of mind on our part was met by a corresponding one on theirs. Some time came [illegible]

ves.

giving lively and animated accounts of what they were seeing & doing — then others telling of the company they had seen & the engagements they had fulfilled under a cloud of apprehension & anxiety as would cause not expressed. Seemed to be no particular reason when there was a picture of letters from America they were expecting, & Mrs Meade out of Lucy, when Caroline said with Ed & Emma were it to about & suffering a state that they could hardly go through the proper conventions of forms. You may say these people should leave more self control or else shut themselves up. I shall answer in the first place as poor Margaret Fuller did when talking of the mutual obligations of parents & children, & a lady eagerly asked her if children should not respect their parents. "If they can." & to avoiding all society, when one is ill at least. This is almost impossible. The world is full of Donbeys. Most people are make an effort, & go into society very exclusive if only the people went into it who were really gay.

The Gentle men to whom